

REMARKS

Claims 3, 4 and 9 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 11 is canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter set forth therein.

The Office Action rejects claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,492,011 to Brändle et al. While Applicant does not necessarily agree with this rejection, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 11 has been canceled by this Amendment, and that the rejection of claim 11 is, therefore, moot. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 3, 4 and 9 contain allowable subject matter.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 3, 4 and 9 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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